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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THOMSON LICENSING S.A.** [FR/FR]; 46, Quai A. Le Gallo, F-92648 Boulogne (FR).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **VERMA, Shaily**

[IN/IN]; A-305 "Glengate", Hiranandani Gardens, 76 Powai, Mumbai (IN). **WANG, Charles, Chuanming** [US/US]; 1504 Spearmint Circle, Jamison, PA 18929 (US).

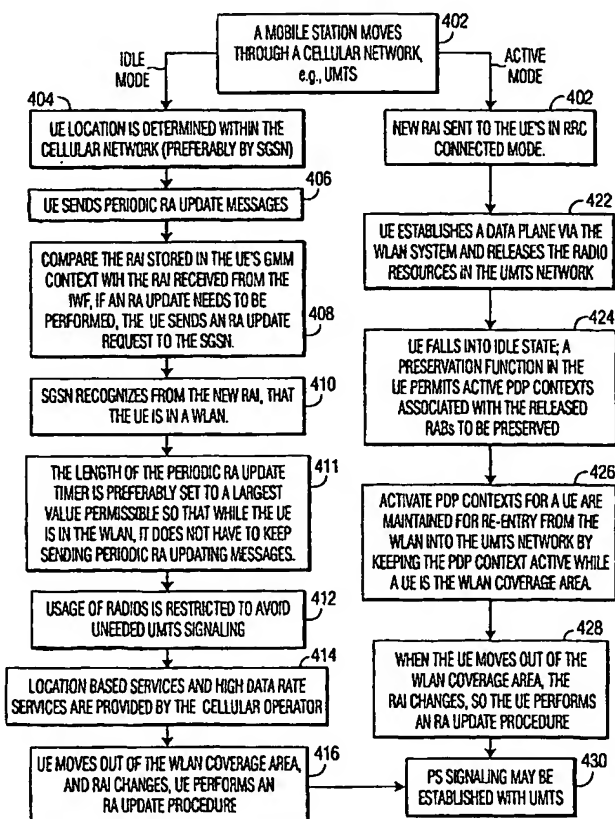
(74) Agents: **TRIPOLI, Joseph, S.** et al.; c/o Thomson Licensing Inc., Two Independence Way, Suite #200, Princeton, NJ 08540 (US).

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(54) Title: REGISTRATION OF A WLAN AS A UMTS ROUTING AREA FOR WLAN-UMTS INTERWORKING



(57) Abstract: A system for employing a wireless local (Fig. 4) area network (WLAN) (14) as a cellular network routing area includes a cellular network (12), which is capable of determining a location where a service request is made. The cellular (12) network includes a packet-based support node B, which determines if the request can be serviced through a WLAN (14), which is identified in the cellular network (12) as a routing area. Packet data protocol (PDP) context is maintained while servicing the request using the WLAN (14) to provide smooth interworking between the WLAN (14) and the cellular network (12).

WO 2004/002051 A3